462 strong feeling against women taking up arms. The loss of manpower caused by the war made women indispensable in various professions. In the stores one seldom sees male clerks; there are today more female than male physicians, especially among the dentists. Except for becoming an ordained minister in the Church or an army officer, all occupations are theoretically open to women, but in practice key positions usually are filled by men, and in spite of social progress the principle of equal pay for equal work has not been realized in many fields of endeavor.

• 671 Freedom, democracy and esteem for law and justice have always been the chief ideals in Finnish society. This is demonstrated in the constitutional and judicial systems, inherited

671 from the Swedish-Finnish period and based on the idea of the active co-operation of the people. The law is trusted by the people and felt to be binding on everybody, the highest executive 647 powers included. Civil servants and officials have generally demonstrated high moral standards--to assure them complete impartiality their positions are made permanent, forfeited only in the case of a serious misdemeanor--and [662] corruption has been almost unknown. Lately, [551] political connections have begun to play an important role in public life, and, as indicated above, they have been sometimes decisive over professional merit in filling open positions in the administration.

SOURCES

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